Claims

1. A novel branched sialo-sugar molecule characterized by being represented by the following formula (I):

NeuAc
$$\alpha$$
 2-6Hex-HexNAc Hex-R (I)

(wherein NeuAc represents N-acetylneuraminic acid in which the hydroxyl group, the carboxyl group and the amido group may be chemically modified with a halogen group, an alkyl group or an acyl group, either the same group or separate groups, Hex represents hexose, HexNAc represents N-acetylhexosamine and R represents a substrate selected from among a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon chain, a sugar chain, a lipid, a protein and a synthetic polymer, and R may have a substituent).

- 2. The novel branched sialo-sugar molecule according to claim 1, wherein the N-acetylneuraminic acid and hexose are linked by a natural O-glycoside linkage.
- 3. The novel branched sialo-sugar molecule according to claim 1, wherein the linkage between N-acetylneuraminic acid and hexose is a chemically converted linkage.
- 4. The novel branched sialo-sugar molecule according to claim 3, wherein the linkage form between N-acetylneuraminic acid and hexose is an S-glycoside linkage or a Se-glycoside linkage.
- 5. A novel branched sialo-sugar molecule characterized by being represented by the following formula (II):

(wherein NeuAc represents N-acetylneuraminic acid in which the hydroxyl group, the carboxyl group and the amido group may be chemically modified with a halogen group, an alkyl group or an acyl group, either the same group or separate groups, Gal represents galactose, GlcNAc represents N-acetylglucosamine and R represents a substrate selected from among a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon chain, a sugar chain, a lipid, a protein and a synthetic polymer, and R may have a substituent).

6. A novel branched sialo-sugar molecule characterized by being represented by the following formula (III):

(wherein NeuAc represents N-acetylneuraminic acid in which the hydroxyl group, the carboxyl group and the amido group may be chemically modified with a halogen group, an alkyl group or an acyl group, either the same group or separate groups, Gal represents galactose, GalNAc represents N-acetylgalactosamine and R represents a substrate selected from among a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon chain, a sugar chain, a lipid, a protein and a synthetic polymer, and R may have a substituent).

- 7. The novel branched sialo-sugar molecule according to either claim 5 or 6, wherein the N-acetylneuraminic acid and galactose are linked by a natural O-glycoside linkage.
- 8. The novel branched sialo-sugar molecule according to either claim 5 or 6, wherein the linkage between N-acetylneuraminic acid and galactose is a

chemically converted linkage.

- 9. The novel branched sialo-sugar molecule according to claim 8, wherein the linkage form between N-acetylneuraminic acid and galactose is an S-glycoside linkage or a Se-glycoside linkage.
- 10. An antiviral agent characterized by comprising at least the novel branched sialo-sugar molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 9 as an active ingredient.